

The Hong Kong Daily Press

No. 1581

九月二十日三十

HONGKONG, TUESDAY, JANUARY 31, 1888.

二月

正月十三日

PRICE 82 PER MONTH

SHIPPING

ARRIVALS

JANUARY 30, BORUTO, Dutch steamer, 1,434, J. WILHELM, Arrived 29th January, General JARDINE, MATTHEWS & CO.

JANUARY 30, AMY, British str., 814, R. KOHLER, Arrived 29th January, General STEPHENSON & CO.

JANUARY 30, WING-SANG, British steamer, 1,317, A. de St. Croix, Calcutta, 14th January, PENGING 20th, and SINGAPORE 23rd, General JARDINE, MATTHEWS & CO.

JANUARY 30, LENNOX, British steamer, 1,082, SAWER, SWATOR 20th January, General JARDINE, MATTHEWS & CO.

JANUARY 30, STURA, Italian steamer, 1,116, T. De Marchi, BONHAY 7th January, and SINGAPORE 22nd January, General CARLOWITZ & CO.

JANUARY 30, MARCIA, British steamer, 1,600, McIntosh, Nagasaki 26th January, Coal, KWANG-KAO, Chinese corn, from SWATOR.

CLEARANCES AT THE HARBOUR MASTER'S OFFICE, 30TH JANUARY

Telegraph, British steamer, for Singapore. Haiphong, British steamer, for Saigon. Triumph, German steamer, for Tzarau. Borneo, Dutch steamer, for Saigon. Merry L. Cuthbert, Amer. bark, for New York.

DEPARTURES

JANUARY 30, CHAOH, WATANNA, Siamese bk., for Bangkok.

JANUARY 30, NORDEN, Norwegian str., for Nagasaki.

JANUARY 30, PATNA, British str., for Calcutta.

JANUARY 30, LEISANG, Brit. str., for Whampoa.

JANUARY 30, FUSHUN, Chinese str., for Shanghai.

JANUARY 30, AMOT, British str., for Whampoa.

JANUARY 30, ATHOLL, British str., for Shanghai.

PASSENGERS ARRIVED

Per Borneo, str., from Amoy—224 Chinese.

Per Amoy, str., from Shanghai—Mr. Seldman, and 16 Chinese.

Per Wingang, str., from Calcutta, &c.—461 Chinese.

Per Sura, str., from Bombay, &c.—307 Chinese.

Per Leesang, str., from Swatow—Messrs. Dahl and Meugens, a. 37 Chinese.

DEPARTURES

Per Peshawar, str., from Hongkong—for Singapore—Messrs. F. N. FORT, Mrs. P. N. FORT, Mrs. M. M. FORT, and 13 Chinese.

Per Penang, str., from Calcutta, &c.—461 Chinese.

Per Sura, str., from Bombay, &c.—307 Chinese.

Per Leesang, str., from Swatow—Messrs. Dahl and Meugens, a. 37 Chinese.

REPORTS

The British steamer AMY, from Shanghai 29th January, reports moderate monsoon and fine weather.

The British steamer LASSOON, from Swatow 29th January, reports fine weather including to be foggy, and fresh breeze all the way down.

The British steamer WINGANG, from Calcutta 14th January, reports touched at Penang 20th and at Singapore 23rd had moderate monsoon with fine, clear weather from Singapore to port.

DOMINION ORGAN & PIANO CO.

Manufacturers of Cabinet, Combination, Chapel and Pedal ORGANS,

and Square and Upright PIANOS;

Sole right to use Foley's Automatic PED L COVER, for the whole Continent of EUROPE;

This device absolutely silences the Organ, rendering it proof against mice, insects, dust, &c.

BRANCH OFFICES—

MANCHESTER, ENGLAND;

LONDON;

HAMBURG, GERMANY

ADELAIDE, AUSTRALIA

SYDNEY,

MELBOURNE,

CHRISTCHURCH, NEW ZEALAND;

DOMINION ORGAN & PIANO CO., BOWHILL, ONTARIO,

CANADA.

Send for catalogues.

CUTLER, F. ALMERE & CO. ESTABLISHED IN 1815, OF LONDON, BORDEAUX, CALCUTTA, BOMBAY, MADRAS, LAHORE, KURRACHEE, &c.

Are represented in China by

Messrs. JARDINE, MATTHEWS & CO.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO. &c.

Subjoined are some of the items consigned by these well-known Shippers:

SPRITS,

COGNAC—The popular "4 Star" quality and best—No better spirit.

COGNAC—The well-known "2 Star" quality.

SCOTCH WHISKY,

The "CARLTON"—11 years old.

The "Heart Shaped" bottle.

The "Square" bottle.

Mr. C. P. & Co.'s selected Whiskies of perfect quality, such is well matured and free from Fuel oil.

The "GLENLIVET" in round bottles is popular and good.

IRISH WHISKY.

Only one quality consigned, the best.

PORTE—INVALIDS.

Invalids in particular are recommended to select this Wine, it is really an INVALID'S PORT.

SHERRY,

For Connoisseurs the following have their own distinctive merits—

The "INVALID'S" pale, delicate, fine flavor.

"AMOREDO" a Stouter Wine very popular.

"MANZANILLA" a clean dry appetising Wine.

"SHERRI—WHITE SEAL," a special favorite in CHINA.

CLARET,

Perfectly pure, Bordeaux, not loaded to please

purely palate.

MADON in quarts and pints.

LAZON in quarts and pints.

ST. ESTEPHE in quarts and pints.

MAROUX-MEDOC in quarts and pints.

LIQUEUR,

Benedictine from the Monastery.

C. P. & Co. are the sole Consignors of this world wide known Liqueur.

For Prices apply to either of the above Firms.

marked *

INTIMATIONS

LIFE ASSURANCE

FOR many years the STANDARD LIFE OFFICE has paid away upwards of Half a Million Pounds Sterling per Annum in Death Claims. Its Funds steadily increasing, exceed £4 Millions, and have increased over 50 per cent. in the last 15 years. The New Assurances on carefully selected lives for the last five years have been in excess of the Business transacted by any of the Scottish Life Offices. The Business is conducted with economy, the premiums are moderate, and the conditions will be found liberal.

Interest allowed on Deposits—Fixed for 12 months, 5 per Cent. per Annum. Fixed for 6 months, 4 per Cent. per Annum. Fixed for 3 months, 3 per Cent. per Annum. Current Deposit Accounts 2 per Cent. per Annum on the daily balance.

Forms of Proposal on application to the BORNEO COMPANY, LIMITED, Agents, Hongkong.

FOR SALE

WINTER HOUSIE R.Y.

SCARFS AND TIES

GLOVES

SHIRTS & COLLARS

DRESSING GOWNS & RUGS

FELT HATS

AND OUTFITTING SUNDRIES

OF ALL KINDS

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

Hongkong, 28th December, 1887.

W. B. W. R. HAS JUST RECEIVED

HONGKONG—INTEREST ALLOWED.

On Current Deposit Account at the rate of 2 per cent. per Annum on the daily balance.

On Fixed Deposits—

For 3 months 3 per Cent. per Annum.

For 6 months 4 per Cent. per Annum.

For 12 months 5 per Cent. per Annum.

Local Bank Discounted.

CREDITS granted on approved Securities, and every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

DRAFFTS granted on London and the chief commercial places in Europe, India, Australia, America, China and Japan.

T. JACKSON, Chief Manager.

Hongkong, 25th January, 1888.

NOTICE

BANKS

THE NEW ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION, LIMITED.

Authorised Capital £2,000,000.

Paid up £500,000.

THE BANK receives money on Deposit, Buys and Sells Bills of Exchange, issues Letters of Credit, forwards Bills for Collection, and Transacts Banking and Agency Business generally on terms to be had on application.

Interest allowed on Deposits—

Fixed for 12 months, 5 per Cent. per Annum.

Fixed for 6 months, 4 per Cent. per Annum.

Fixed for 3 months, 3 per Cent. per Annum.

Current Deposit Accounts 2 per Cent. per Annum on the daily balance.

APPROVED CLAIMS on the ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION, in Liquidation, or the BALANCES of such Claims purchased on advantageous terms.

Agency of the NATIONAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

E. W. RUTTER, Manager, Hongkong Branch.

Hongkong, 12th March, 1888.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID UP CAPITAL £1,500,000.

RESERVE FUND £300,000.

RESERVE FUND OF PROPRIETORS £50,000.

COURT OF DIRECTORS—

HON. JOHN BELL-IWING, Chairman.

W. H. FORBES, Esq., Deputy Chairman.

C. D. HOLLOWAY, Esq., Vice Chairman.

W. G. BRODIE, Esq., Vice Chairman.

W. G. DUNLOP, Esq., Vice Chairman.

W. H. HARRIS, Esq., Vice Chairman.

W. H

1888. NOW READY. 1888.
THE CHRONICLE AND DIRECTORY
FOR 1888.

With which is incorporated
THE CHINA DIRECTORY.
(TWENTY-SIXTH ANNUAL ISSUE,
COMPLETE WITH APPENDIX, PLANS, &c.,
Royal 8vo, pp. 1,200, \$5.00,
SMALLER EDITION, Royal 8vo, pp. 816, \$3.00.

THE CHRONICLE AND DIRECTORY
has been thoroughly revised and brought up
to date, and greatly increased in bulk.
CONTAINS DESCRIPTIVE AND STATISTICAL
ACCOUNTS OF, AND DIRECTORIES FOR
HONGKONG—Kobe (Hyogo).

Do. Ladies' Directory—Osaka.

Do. Peak Directory—Tokyo.

Do. Do. Military Forces—Yokohama.

MACAO. Nitro-gas.

CHINA—Pekin. Vladivostock.

Hohhot. Manila.

Wu-hsia. Philippines.

Changsha. Cebu.

Shanghai. Illelo.

Chinkiang. Bonino.

Wuhu. Sarawak.

Kiukiang. Labuan.

Hankow. British North Borneo.

Changsha. China.

Shantung. Siau-nan.

Shantung. Cholon.

Shantung. Quinlon.

Tonkin. Tschong.

Changsha. Hanoi.

Changsha. Nanchang.

Changsha. Haidong.

SIAM—Bangkok.

STRATE SETTLEMENTS—Singapore.

Singapore. Malacca.

Malaya. Penang.

Malaya. Johor.

Malaya. Singap. Ujong.

Malaya. Selangor.

Malaya. Perak.

NAVAL SQUADRONS—French.

British.

United States.

Japanese.

SHIPPING OFFICES of the Coasting Steamers of P. & O. S. N. Co., H. C. & M. S. B. Co., Indo-China S. N. Co., Scottish Orientals S. Co., Douglas S. S. Co., Miscellaneous Coast China Mar. S. N. Co., Steamers.

THE LIST OF RESIDENTS now contains the names of
FOURTEEN THOUSAND AND FIVE HUNDRED
FOREIGNERS arranged under one Alphabet in the strictest order, the initials as well as the surnames being alphabetical.

THE MAPS and PLANS have been mostly re-enlarged in a uniform style and brought up to date. The new consist of
MAPS OF MERCANTILE HOUSES IN CHINA.
CODE OF SIGNALS IN THE AT VICTORIA PEAK.
MAP OF THE FAR EAST.
MAP OF THE ISLAND OF HONGKONG.
PLAN OF THE CITY OF VICTORIA.
PLAN OF MOUNTAIN DISTRICT, VICTORIA.
PLAN OF FOREIGN CONCESSIONS, SHANGHAI.
PLAN OF YOKOHAMA.
PLAN OF SAIGON.
PLAN OF TOWN AND ENVIRONS OF SINGAPORE.
PLAN OF GEORGE TOWN, PENANG.

Among the other contents of the book are—
An Anglo-Chinese Calendar, Mean of Barometer and Thermometer, Rainfall, &c.
A full Chronology of remarkable events since the advent of the Chinese and Japan.
A description of Chinese Festivals, Fests, &c., with the days on which they fall.
Comparative Tables of Money, Weights, &c., Scale of Honouring Stamp Duties.
The Hongkong Postal Guide for 1888.
Scales of Commissions and Charges adopted by the Chambers of Commerce of Hongkong, Shanghai, Amoy and Nanking.
Hongkong Char. Journals, and Boat Hire.

The APPENDIX consists of
FOUR HUNDRED PAGES of closely printed matter, to which reference is constantly required by residents and those having commercial or political relations with the Countries embraced within the scope of the CHRONICLE and DIRECTORY.

The Contents of the Appendix are too numerous to recapitulate in an Advertisement, but include—

TRADE WITH CHINA—Great Britain, Nanking, 1842

Tientsin, 1858

Chefoo, with Additional Article
Opium Convention, 1858.

and all others not abrogated.

France, Tientsin, 1858

Conventions, 1860

Tientsin, 1858

Customs of Commerce, 1866.

United States, Tientsin, 1858

Additional, 1869

Faking, 1850

Germany, Tientsin, 1861

Faking, 1850

Russia, Japan, Spain, Brazil, and Peru.

TRADES WITH JAPAN—Netherlands

United States

TRADES WITH COREA

TRADES WITH SIAM

TRADES WITH ANNAM

TRADES WITH CAMBODIA

CUSTOMS TARIFFS

Chinese

Japanese

Corsican

LEGAL

Orders in Council for Government of H. M. B. M.

Subjects in China and Japan, 1865, 1877,

1878, 1881, 1884, 1885, 1886, 1886.

Rules of H. M. S. Supreme and other Courts

in China and Japan

Tables of Consular Fees

Code of Civil Procedure, Hongkong

Table of Hongkong Court Fees

Admiralty Jurisdiction Act

Regulations for the Consular Courts of United

States in China

Rules of Court of Consuls at Shanghai

Chinese Passenger Act

TRADE REGULATIONS

China

Customs Duties, China

Customs and Harbor Regulations for the different ports of China, Philippines, Siam, &c.

Postage Regulations

HONGKONG—Charter of the Colony

Rules of Legislative Council

Port Regulations

&c., &c., &c.

Orders may be sent to Mr. T. H. Price, Office, where it is published, or to the following Agents:

Mr. F. A. da Cruz, Macao.

Mr. G. S. G. & Co., Swallow.

Mr. G. S. G. & Co., Amoy.

Mr. G. S. G. & Co., Formosa.

Mr. G. S. G. & Co., Foochow.

Mr. G. S. G. & Co., Ningpo.

Mr. G. S. G. & Co., Shanghai.

Mr. G. S. G. & Co., North China.

Mr. G. S. G. & Co., Tientsin.

some time played upon the walls to prevent the spread of the flame in this direction. By three o'clock the copious streams of water which were played upon the burning buildings, from hydrants and engines had produced the desired effect, and the fire was well in hand, after completely destroying No. 41 and leaving nothing of the Oriental Hotel but the thatched building which had been pulled down as a result of the conflagration. The damage to the firemen have been very considerable. Mr. Hamers, the proprietor of the Oriental Hotel and adjoining house, had, we understand, an insurance of \$8,000 on the buildings only, in the South British Insurance Co. of New Zealand, while his furniture and stock were not insured at all, and the building is little doubt heavily lost. Mr. Enderby's house, which cost a total of forty and four thousand dollars, the greater part of the latter were destroyed or damaged. The contents of the ground floor were insured for \$4,000 only with Messrs. Jardine & Matheson's Agency; nothing like the full value. Mrs. Bright lost all she had and was completely uninsured. As to the origin of the fire we can say little. There can be no doubt that it originated in the kitchen of the Oriental Hotel, but how it started is hard to say, unless it was the work of an incendiary. —*Japan Gazette.*

TOKYO.

It is stated in one of the native papers that his Majesty the King of Siam has presented his Majesty the Mikado with two white elephants, which will arrive, it is said, in the next month.

The indigent and enterprising gentlemen Messrs. Shibusawa and Mausumi have formed another company called the *Pakukai Kaihatsu*, or *Tanzen's* Association. Its object, as the name indicates, is to encourage the trade in the export of Japanese hides, but a large percentage of them are damaged on route owing to imperfect curing. This is intended to be remedied. The value of the skins is estimated to be 140,000 yen, and its factory will be in Tsukiji—not an addition to that chorus quartier of the metropolis.

Mr. Bisei Fukuda, writes the *Nichi Nichi Shinbun*:—“A few days ago, while taking a trip through the country, I visited a couple of ancient caves at Otsuwa-Tamagari, Mutsu Province. These caves were first discovered by a peasant of that village named Minowa Yashiro a few years ago, who was a fisherman. The cave has three floors. One is about 12 feet square and about 9 feet in height, and the other consists of two rooms about equal in size. The entrance to them was so low I could scarcely get inside. When he first examined them, Mr. Minowa told me, he found two skeletons in one and six in the other, one also containing a sword. They were buried in the earth, and in the neighborhood, constructing a tomb with stones taken from the earth. Mr. Minowa has in his possession a tooth taken from one of the skeletons; it is a little larger than the ordinary teeth of human beings.”

A huge tortoise, the most important in the capital, has just been erected in front of the Shokonji temple on Kita-an Hill. It is of iron and was cast at Otsu's Arsenal under the superintendence of Lieutenant Asakura Michio. The tortoise is of the highest quality, and it is mounted on a high stone pedestal. The inscription on the pedestal reads: “A tortoise was cast in the year of the tortoise, 1885, by the Emperor, and it is a gift to the people of Tokyo.”

Mr. Dobereck, Hongkong Observatory, 30th January, 1888.

HONGKONG TEMPERATURE.

(FROM MESSRS. JARDINE & CO.'S BUREAU.)	
January 30th.	30.10
Barometric - 1 p.m.	30.03
Barometric - 7 p.m.	30.08
Thermometer - 8 a.m.	62
Thermometer - 9 a.m.	64
Thermometer - 10 a.m.	65
Thermometer - 11 a.m. (Wet bulb)	65
Thermometer - 12 m.	65
Thermometer - 1 p.m. (Wet bulb)	65
Thermometer - 2 p.m.	61
Thermometer - 3 p.m.	61
Thermometer - Minimum (over night)	59

CHINA COAST METEOROLOGICAL REGISTER.

20th January, 1888, at 4 p.m.	
Station.	Temperature.
Tokio	30.11
Yokohama	30.11
Shanghai	30.27
Hangchow	30.14
Chinkiang	30.03
Wuhsien	30.00
Mands	30.07

The Barometer has fallen along the coast and has decreased. Cloudy and damp weather with moderate temperature prevails.

W. DOBERCK, Hongkong Observatory, 30th January, 1888.

METEOROLOGICAL REGISTER.

Previous day.	On date.	On date 10 days ago.	On date 4 months ago.
Temperature	30.08	30.14	30.06
Humidity	62	62	62
Wind	20	20	20
Force of wind	N.E.	N.E.	N.W.
Weather	b.	b.	d.

1.—*HAKUREN* reduced to 35 degrees Fahrenheit at the level of the sea, in latitude, temperature, and humidity. 2.—*HAKUREN* in percentage of saturation, the humidity of the air is 62 per cent. 3.—*HAKUREN* in degrees of Fahrenheit. 4.—*HAKUREN* in centigrade. 5.—*HAKUREN* in Fahrenheit. 6.—*HAKUREN* in centigrade. 7.—*HAKUREN* in Fahrenheit. 8.—*HAKUREN* in centigrade. 9.—*HAKUREN* in Fahrenheit. 10.—*HAKUREN* in centigrade. 11.—*HAKUREN* in Fahrenheit. 12.—*HAKUREN* in centigrade. 13.—*HAKUREN* in Fahrenheit. 14.—*HAKUREN* in centigrade. 15.—*HAKUREN* in Fahrenheit. 16.—*HAKUREN* in centigrade. 17.—*HAKUREN* in Fahrenheit. 18.—*HAKUREN* in centigrade. 19.—*HAKUREN* in Fahrenheit. 20.—*HAKUREN* in centigrade. 21.—*HAKUREN* in Fahrenheit. 22.—*HAKUREN* in centigrade. 23.—*HAKUREN* in Fahrenheit. 24.—*HAKUREN* in centigrade. 25.—*HAKUREN* in Fahrenheit. 26.—*HAKUREN* in centigrade. 27.—*HAKUREN* in Fahrenheit. 28.—*HAKUREN* in centigrade. 29.—*HAKUREN* in Fahrenheit. 30.—*HAKUREN* in 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INSURANCES.

GERMAN MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY OF BERLIN.

The Undersigned, having been appointed Agents for the above Company are prepared to GRANT POLICIES on MARINE RISKS to all parts of the World.

MEYER & CO.

Hongkong, 23rd January, 1888. 1201

NOTICE.

QUEEN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

The Undersigned, Agents for the above Company, are prepared to ACCEPT RISKS against FIRE at Current Rates.

NORTON & CO.

Hongkong, 16th July, 1887. 1191

FILE INSURANCE COMPANY, OF 1877 IN HAMBURG.

THE Undersigned, Agents of the above Company, are Prepared to ACCEPT RISKS at Current Rates.

PUSTAU & CO.

Hongkong, 18th January, 1884. 1167

CALEDONIAN FIRE AND LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.

ESTABLISHED 1805.

THE Undersigned, having been appointed Agents for the above Company are prepared to issue Policies of Insurance against FIRE at Current Rates.

DOUGLAS LAPRADE & CO.

Hongkong, 12th August, 1887. 1168

THE LONDON ASSURANCE COMPANY.

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER OF HIS MAJESTY KING GEORGE THE FIRST A.D. 1720.

THE Undersigned, having been appointed Agents for the above Corporation are prepared to grant Insurance as follows:

MARINE DEPARTMENT.

Policies at current rates, payable either here in London, or at the principal Ports of India, China, and Australia.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Policies issued for long or short periods at current rates.

LIFE DEPARTMENT.

Policies issued for sum not exceeding £5,000, at reduced rates.

HOLIDAY, WISE & CO.

Hongkong, 26th July, 1882. 1149

THE LATEST ADVANCE IN LIFE INSURANCE.

THE NEW YORK LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY'S 6 YEAR DIVIDEND POLICY.

THIS Policy secures the insured the option of terminating his Insurance at the end of any 5 Years period, and recovering for his Policy a cash surrender value together with his share of accumulated surplus apportioned as a dividend. If death occur, the full amount of the Policy will be paid immediately on proof of death, together with a sum equivalent of 50 per cent of all premiums received during the 5 Years period to which death may happen.

Prospects and full particulars may be had on application.

BIRLEY DALRYMPLE & CO.

Agents.

NEW YORK LIFE INSURANCE CO.

Hongkong, 13th January, 1885. 1168

GENERAL LIFE AND FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

Hongkong, 1st April, 1885. 1168

IMPERIAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

The Undersigned, Agents for the above Company, are prepared to GRANT POLICIES against FIRE to the extent of \$60,000 on any one

FIRST-CLASS RISK at Current Rates.

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & CO.

Agents.

Imperial Fire Insurance Company.

Hongkong, 9th May, 1881. 1168

NORTH GERMAN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY AT HAMBURG.

THE Undersigned, Agents for the above Company, are prepared to GRANT INSURANCES to the extent of \$65,000, on first-class risks at current rates.

MELCHERS & CO.

Hongkong, 27th March, 1876. 1168

THE MAN OF INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

HEAD OFFICE—HONGKONG.

CAPITAL (SUBSCRIBED), \$1,000,000.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

IEN SIN SANG, Eq.

IEN SIN YONG PING, Eq.

CHAN LI CHOY, Eq.

Q. HOI CHUEN, Eq.

The Company GRANTS POLICIES on MARINE RISKS to all parts of the World, payable at any of its Agencies.

Contributory Dividends are payable to all Contributors of Business, whether they are Shareholders or not.

WOO LIN YUEN, Secretary.

HEAD OFFICE, No. 2 Queen's Road West, Hongkong, 13th March, 1881. 1172

NORTH BRITISH AND MERCANTILE INSURANCE COMPANY.

THIS Undersigned, Agents of the above Company, are authorized to INSURE against FIRE at Current Rates.

GILMEL & CO.

Hongkong, 1st January, 1882. 1171

THE CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

The Undersigned, Agents for the above Company, are prepared to accept RISKS against FIRE at Current Rates.

SIRMSSEN & CO.

Agents.

Hongkong, 1st January, 1884. 1168

FOR SALE.

ABOUT 30,000 CUBIC FEET MANILA

HARDWOOD.

Apply to

REMEDIOS & CO.

Hongkong, 10th January, 1888. 1168

FOR SALE.

AT WHOLESALE PRICES.

SACCONET'S SHELLY, PORT

CLARETS, CHAMPAGNE

HOCKS, BURGUNDY.

BRANDY, WHISKIES, ALE, STOUT.

MAGNIFIED, PLATOS, COOKING

STOVES, AND TRICYCLES.

SCALES, BICYCLES.

PAINTS, OILS, VARNISH.

PIANOS.

SINGER'S SEWING MACHINES.

Apply to

W. G. HUMPHREYS & CO.

Bank Buildings.

Hongkong, 1st January, 1888. 1168

FOR SALE.

JUST ARRIVED EX "MANUEL".

THE ENGLISH MAIL.

The following hours are observed in closing Mail, &c., by the Contract Packet:

Day of Departure.

NOON—Money Order Office closes.

2.00 P.M.—Registry of Letters closes.

3.00 P.M.—Mail closed, except for Late Letters.

3.10 P.M.—Letters may be posted on board the packet with late fee of 10 cents, until 10 o'clock until

3.30 P.M.—When the Post Office closes entirely.

3.40 P.M.—Late Letters may be posted on board the packet with late fee of 10 cents, until time of departure.

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3.00 P.M

MAIL SUPPLEMENT TO THE HONGKONG DAILY PRESS.

HONGKONG, TUESDAY, JANUARY 31ST, 1888.

THE RE-ORGANIZATION OF THE HONGKONG POST OFFICE.

The most important question dealt with in the report of the Postmaster-General for 1887 is the need of more space for the work of the Post Office and for an increased staff to do that work. Mr. Lister shows that in twelve years, while the work of the Post Office has nearly doubled—the amount of correspondence passing through it having quite doubled—the staff is so little larger that the total salaries paid in 1887 amount to only \$22,740 against \$20,400 in 1875. The pressure of the work has undoubtedly become much greater by the more frequent arrivals of mails and the more frequent dispatch of coasting steamers. The initiation of the Parcel Post has added considerably to the work of the Department, and the money order branch has undergone very great extension. Yet in spite of the growth of the work no addition has been made to the English staff, badly as it is needed. The accommodation at the Post Office is also undoubtedly too limited; when the building was erected it was sufficient for the requirements, but the designers had not sufficient prescience to foresee the immense development in the trade of the port and the enormous increase that would pari passu take place in the Postal business. Whether the addition of another storey to the existing structure would meet the case, or whether a new building will be required, we are not in a position to say, but it seems tolerably clear that among the public works needed in the not distant future a new Post Office or enlargement of the present one may safely be ranked.

Beyond the provision of increased house accommodation, however, there is still more important one of the practical re-organisation of the Hongkong Office. For some time past there has been a feeling of dissatisfaction with the Post Office, a feeling that has gradually been growing and taking a more defined shape as the city has spread its bounds, and the inefficiency of the arrangements that, answered all purposes a decade ago, has become increasingly apparent. In saying this we do not impute the slightest blame to the Postmaster-General or his staff. They have struggled gallantly under difficulties for many years, and great credit is due to them for the excellent results achieved under such manifold disadvantages. No one sees more clearly than Mr. Lister that the service is inadequate to the requirements of the times and the necessities of the Colony. In his report he refers to this in the following language:—“(a)—An enforcement of the monopoly of the Post Office with regard to outward correspondence, more particularly China.” There can be no question as to the desirability of the first proposition. The local delivery is very slow and inadequate, letters being usually delivered at the office in town, unless a wish for delivery at private residence be expressed. The result is that private correspondence is often delayed and the ladies especially have to pass their souls in patience until their letters can be sent up from the office. There is no delivery at all at the Peak, where the community is yearly growing, nor at Kowloon, where the residents are increasing in number and where large steamers are now always lying alongside the wharves. There should be one or two deliveries daily both at the Peak and at Kowloon, and pillar boxes should be established at Victoria Gap and near the landing place at Tsim Tsa Tsui. These pillar boxes would be a great immediate convenience, and others might with advantage be erected subsequently in outlying districts where the growth of population necessitated it.

The second suggestion by the Postmaster-General would, like the first, involve some increased outlay. A steam-launch would have to be purchased, and provision made for its upkeep. The gig at present maintained by the Post Office could, however, be dispensed with, which would go to reduce the cost of the upkeep of the steam-launch. This is certainly required. The contract mails are now landed without any unreasonable delay, but nevertheless sometime would be saved if the Post Office did its own work. The launch is, however, most required for the collection of letters from other steamers, where there is often a notable loss of time. With regard to the enforcement of the monopoly of the Post Office over outward correspondence, this is a question of revenue with which the Government are more immediately concerned than the public. Probably Mr. Lister, in his capacity of Colonial Treasurer, has his eye on the best way of meeting the cost of development of the Postal Service with the least pressure on the taxpayer. Naturally he would, Postmaster, like to see his department paying its own expenses; equally, as Treasurer, he would prefer that the increased cost of the Postal Administration should not have to be provided for by the Colonial Treasury, which has already so many drains on it. No systematic attempt has yet been made to compel Chinese correspondence to be sent through the Post Office. There is a very efficient outside system of delivery of Chinese letters, and any interference with this system would probably cause some trouble and feeling. Of course, the Government would be within their rights in enforcing their monopoly, and the Chinese would in the end submit as we believe they did at Singapore, but it is a matter for consideration whether, having so long permitted this invasion of the Postal monopoly, the Government would be

wise in now enforcing it. Much of course depends upon the extent to which the Post Office suffers in revenue from the Chinese competition, and whether the pecuniary benefit would compensate for the trouble the enforcement of the monopoly would cause the Post Office and the irritation it would give rise to among the Chinese. However this question may be viewed, we have no doubt the community will feel satisfied that Mr. Lister has at least made out a good case in favour of re-organisation of the Postal arrangements so as to admit of a more rapid delivery of letters, and increased postal facilities generally.

THE REGISTRATION OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS IN HONGKONG.

The remarks of the Hon. P. Ryrie in opposition to the Bill for the Registration of Imports and Exports in the Legislative Council on Wednesday have doubtless taken the community generally as much by surprise as they did the Hon. A. P. MacEwan, the representative of the Chamber of Commerce. The Bill has been approved by the Chamber, in fact has been introduced on their recommendation. But some one has told Mr. Ryrie that there are objections to it, and the hon. gentleman, carrying his well known liberality to extremes, asks for the postponement of the Bill on grounds which he is not prepared to state and evidently does not understand. All that Mr. Ryrie could say in support of his position was that there were objections to the time within which cargo returns are to be made, five days, and to the penalties imposed for failure to comply with the law. No wonder Mr. Ryrie was careful to inform the Council that he was not advocating so much his own opinion as the opinion of people who had spoken to him. The reason given by the hon. gentleman are in fact too plausible to be willingly fathomed by any intelligent individual.

If five days is too short a time to allow for the sending in of the return it has gradually been growing and taking a more defined shape as the city has spread its bounds, and the inefficiency of the arrangements that, answered all purposes a decade ago, has become increasingly apparent. In saying this we do not impute the slightest blame to the Postmaster-General or his staff. They have struggled gallantly under difficulties for many years, and great credit is due to them for the excellent results achieved under such manifold disadvantages. No one sees more clearly than Mr. Lister that the service is inadequate to the requirements of the times and the necessities of the Colony. In his report he refers to this in the following language:—“(a)—An enforcement of the monopoly of the Post Office with regard to outward correspondence, more particularly China.” There can be no question as to the desirability of the first proposition. The local delivery is very slow and inadequate, letters being usually delivered at the office in town, unless a wish for delivery at private residence be expressed. The result is that private correspondence is often delayed and the ladies especially have to pass their souls in patience until their letters can be sent up from the office. There is no delivery at all at the Peak, where the community is yearly growing, nor at Kowloon, where the residents are increasing in number and where large steamers are now always lying alongside the wharves. There should be one or two deliveries daily both at the Peak and at Kowloon, and pillar boxes should be established at Victoria Gap and near the landing place at Tsim Tsa Tsui. These pillar boxes would be a great immediate convenience, and others might with advantage be erected subsequently in outlying districts where the growth of population necessitated it.

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THE HONGKONG GOVERNMENT AND THE SMALL-POX EPIDEMIC.

Much indignation has been expressed at the utterly inadequate nature of the arrangements made by the Government for coping with the present outbreak of small-pox. To locate a number of pest houses in a densely populated district was a measure which common sense alone was sufficient to condemn. To place the patients in these pest houses under the charge of a doctor having at the same time charge of a general hospital favoured both of fatuity and inhumanity. It has been reported that the result that might have been expected had happened that a number of the patients in the general hospital had contracted the disease, and that they had had to be transferred to the small-pox hospital. We are glad to say that things are not quite so bad as this, thanks, we suppose, to the vigilance exercised by the Superintendent. The facts are that several

have been admitted to the Hospital with symptoms of fever, etc., but with no rash, which have turned out to be small-pox. Of course as soon as the rash has appeared they have been sent over to the small-pox hospital. There were two cases of this kind on the 22nd instant, which were placed in a ward the Superintendent has set apart for such doubtful cases. But anything more thoroughly disgraceful to the Medical Department, or to the Government, or to whomsoever may be responsible, than the existing arrangements could hardly be conceived. And, this is just the sort of thing that might be expected from paternal and irresponsible Government. We shall always be liable to similar mistakes until the ratepayers secure some say in the management of their own affairs. We want a municipality with a sanitary committee. If such a body were in existence at the present time we venture to say measures would be promptly taken which would very considerably mitigate the epidemic. As showing the benefits attending the management of their own affairs by ratepayers we may cite an incident that occurred at Sheffield, where, as we mentioned yesterday, there was a outbreak of small-pox and where increased hospital accommodation has become necessary. The Sanitary Committee has made its report to the Local Government Board, stating that an inquiry with regard to the proposed loan for temporary hospital buildings at Bodmines would be held on the 22nd instant. The committee, on motion of the Mayor, passed a resolution expressing their extreme disappointment at the delay of the Local Government Board in holding the inquiry, and informing them that the necessity for the provision of additional accommodation for small-pox patients was urgent that, without wishing to appear to be wanning in respect to the Board, they fell bound to proceed at once with the erection of the temporary buildings at the proposed small-pox hospital at Lodgegate. The committee thereupon accepted estimates for the compulsory vaccination of infants. But the first duty of the Government is to remove the small-pox hospitals from the centre of the town and secure the exclusive service of a doctor to attend on the patients and do nothing else.

The SUPERVISOR-GENERAL.—The frequent free passes he has in Victoria, Sir, are no doubt to some extent due to the number of verandahs which are enclosed. The Government have made repeated efforts to clear the verandahs, but immediately these objectionable partitions are taken down they are put again. It is impossible to have inspectors continually looking out for these partitions and making them difficult. A document called “verandahs” is signed by the Crown lessee of the lot, who subsequently parts with portions of the lot, and the section holders often build houses with verandahs, but the Government has no hold upon them as they have not signed any guarantee, and it was the opinion of the legal advice of the Government that we could not demand against the lessor that he could only proceed with the buildings. This was the reason that it was thought necessary to simplify the course of procedure, to bring in this Ordinance, so that we can take action directly against the section holder independently of the holder of the remaining portion of the lease. These are the reasons why the Verandah Ordinance has been brought forward—one to arrest the spread of the disease and the other to prevent the practice of inflicting small-pox.

The EXCELLENCY.—It is the opinion of local experience of course, but the question in my mind is whether these tremendously heavy penalties are necessary.

The CHIEF JUSTICE.—I should like to qualify myself to make them smaller. I do not think any Magistrate would be likely to inflict any such penalties.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL.—I think we should consider whether the fine is not too much; it is an absolute amount. We might also reduce the fine to \$50 instead of \$100.

The EXCELLENCY.—The general principle of minimum fine has been, I know, disapproved of. I did succeed while in Fiji in prevailing upon the Secretary of State to allow minimum fine in a certain case, and I have no doubt it is a very grave case it would be possible to obtain it again for more inclined to a minimum of \$50 for the second offence than for a fine of \$100 for the first. We might may trust to the possibility of inflicting \$90.

The CHIEF JUSTICE.—I should like to qualify myself to make them smaller. I do not think any Magistrate would be likely to inflict any such penalties.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL.—I do not think the master has assumed such a grave aspect as to make minimum fine necessary. Perhaps we had better strike out the words “not less than \$90.”

The CHIEF JUSTICE.—The clause was then passed as amended.

REGISTRATION OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS

The CHIEF JUSTICE.—It is very improbable that a Magistrate would do that unless it was a very serious case.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL.—I do not think the master has assumed such a grave aspect as to make minimum fine necessary. Perhaps we had better strike out the words “not less than \$90.”

The CHIEF JUSTICE.—The clause was then passed as amended.

MINUTES.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

THE POST OFFICE REPORT.

The report of the Postmaster-General for 1887 was laid on the table.

DISINFECTION OF CLOTHES AT THE GOVERNMENT HOSPITAL.

Mr. H. G. THOMAS, R.N., and Mr. A. P. MacEwan, having been appointed permanent members of the Legislative Council instead of acting as formerly, were sworn in.

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MINUTES.

first twenty-eight days of November, and so far as is known up to this date with regularity and success.

11.—The date at which this report has to be sent makes it impossible to detail the revenue of the department for 1887, which will not be definitely ascertained for some months to come. Probable, however, there will be some impression on the revenue for 1888, which was as follows:

Gross revenue, 1888 \$14,834.72
\$13,754.72

Share of United Kingdom 870,370.82
of other countries 6,973.12

Conveyance of mails 311,541.34

Working expenses 59,575.98

Interest 1,394.72

Postage 870,370.82

Delivery of parcels 6,973.12

Postage on parcels 311,541.34

Delivery of letters 59,575.98

Delivery of telegrams 1,394.72

Delivery of parcels 870,370.82

Delivery of letters 6,973.12

Delivery of telegrams 311,541.34

Delivery of parcels 59,575.98

Delivery of letters 1,394.72

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